REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments to claims 10-14 and 17 and new claim 18 be entered prior to examination in order to avoid this application incurring a surcharge for the presence of one or more multiple dependent claims. Reference characters have been retained in the claims but have no effect on claim scope (MPEP 608.01(m)). An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

Customer Number: 22428

Telephone:

(202) 672-5426

Facsimile:

(202) 672-5399

Glenn Law

Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 34,371